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ing the week, 4. Prevailing diseases, malarial fever in its various forms and yellow fever. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, not good. Since August 1 8 cases and 3 deaths have been reported.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: August 5, steamship *Alene*; crew, 38; passengers from this port, 3; passengers in transit, 5; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. August 7, steamship *Kitty*; crew, 20; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. August 8, steamship *Olympia*; crew, 38; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. August 9, steamship *Hispania*; crew, 22; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. August 10, steamship *Alabama*; crew, 18; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none.

Respectfully,

D. W. GOODMAN,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*The mosquito and yellow fever—The use of mosquito bars.*

PORT LIMON, COSTA RICA, *August 15, 1901.*

SIR: Replying to Bureau letter of August 2 (McE.), asking for information as to the use of mosquito netting in houses in which were yellow-fever patients, I have to say the occupants of the 2 houses reported on were not in the habit of using the netting, mosquitoes being very troublesome for only a few hours in the early part of the night, and again after daylight—that is, only in the interim between the land and sea breezes. I have urged the use of the netting in my conversations with nonimmunes since my arrival here, and I think with good results.

Some weeks ago Dr. Steggall, who has charge of the hospitals of the Costa Rican Railroad and of the United Fruit Company, consulted with me on this subject. We agreed on a plan, which has been carried out as follows: The upper story of 1 section of the hospital of the United Fruit Company, has been reserved exclusively for yellow-fever patients, permission having been obtained to take all private patients there, as soon as a diagnosis was made or suspected. These wards are shut off from the other portion of the hospital, and every window and door opening is supplied with a frame covered with netting. This is better than individual mosquito bars. The result has been satisfactory. At the Charity or City Hospital, however, no such good conditions exist, for while the city physician, Dr. Aguila, is fully alive to the situation and its needs, he claims the Government gives him no funds or means to carry out these measures, and it is in this hospital that most of the deaths have occurred.

I have received several copies of Department Circular No. 71, and will give one to each of the local physicians in Port Limon.

Since writing the above I have learned that the governor has placed at the disposal of the city physician, funds sufficient to put mosquito netting at the doors and windows of the Charity Hospital, and to make other improvements necessary for the comfort and safety of its occupants.

Respectfully,

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